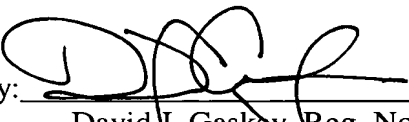


**REMARKS**

Examination of this application is requested where claims 18-31 are now pending.

Respectfully submitted,

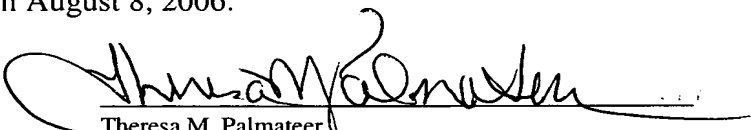
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Dated: August 8, 2006

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that the enclosed **Preliminary Amendment** is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 8, 2006.

  
Theresa M. Palmateer

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